UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

APRIL 1914

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The Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and The Unitarian Temperance Society

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AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts

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THE UNITARIAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES

REPRESENTED IN THIS ISSUE OF WORD AND WORK

All of these societies have their headquarters in the building of the American Unitarian Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. The names of the principal officers of each society will be found on the first pages of the sections devoted to their respective organizations. The work and purpose of these societies may be stated in brief as follows:

THE AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

The Association was founded in 1825, its object being "to diffuse the knowledge and promote the interests of pure Christianity. In furtherance of this purpose the Association publishes books, reports, and tracts; supports missionaries; establishes and maintains churches, and aids in supporting ministers; assists students in preparing for the ministry; and helps fellow-citizens of foreign birth and speech in entering upon their American life. It administers endowments for the benefit of schools and churches of the Unitarian order; for the relief of poor and worthy ministers and the widows of ministers; for providing public lectures in centers of population; for the benefit of schools for colored people in the South; and for many other beneficent purposes.

THE ALLIANCE OF UNITARIAN WOMEN

The National Alliance was organized in 1890, and has for its aims primarily to quicken the religious life of the Unitarian churches, and to bring the women of the denomination into closer acquaintance, co-operation and fellowship; to promote local organizations of women for missionary and denominational work; to bring them into helpful association; to collect and disseminate information regarding all matters of interest to the denomination, such as needs of local societies, facilities for meeting these needs, work to be done, the collection and distribution of money, and in general to devise ways and means for the most efficient usefulness of the women of the Unitarian fellowship.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS UNION

The Union was organized in 1896, and its purposes are to foster the religious life; to bring the young people of the Unitarian churches into closer relations with one another; and to spread rational views of religion and to put into practice such principles of life and duty as tend to uplift mankind. The cardinal principles of the Union are truth, worship and service. It maintains a field secretary to promote the organization of the young people and to extend the fellowship of the Union.

THE UNITARIAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

The Temperance Society is practically the working committee of the Unitarian churches to promote the cause of temperance in every way possible. It publishes and freely distributes addresses, pamphlets, leaflets and tracts, and furnishes temperance news and facts to the public press. It arranges for conferences on the subject of temperance and sends speakers to general meetings where this subject may properly have a share in the interest and attention.

UNITARIAN WORD AND WORK

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UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and Unitarian Temperance Society

Vol. 17 April, 1914 No. 7

EDITORIAL

THE attitude of confidence towards one's religious affiliation is a great asset. If we meet a Roman Catholic we want him to be a "good Catholic," true to his church, loyal in its support and confident in its power to meet all the spiritual requirements of his nature in this world and in the world to come. If we see a Quaker dressed in gray we can have nothing less than a profound respect for a man who thus announces to the world that, so far as he is individually concerned, he is content with his experience of the "inner light," neither finding nor needing the ministrations of symbols and rituals. No matter how small numerically, a man's denomination may be, how few its churches and insignificant its power, if only the individual finds within it intellectual satisfaction and spiritual peace. We honor the person who believes in something with all his heart and associates himself with other like-minded people for his own good and the good of mankind in general.

* *

OF course, a loyal communicant of a given church may not accept everything his church has taught, nor defend all that it has done. If he is possessed of ordinary intelligence he knows that no organization can be composed of the exact duplicates of himself physically, intellectually, morally or spiritually. The members of a given family may differ widely as to their appearance, their abilities and their tastes; but the mere fact that they are all members of one household imposes upon them the obligations and the joys of consanguinity. The mere fact that one belongs to a given "household of the faith" is sufficient to necessitate his loyal devotion to it. Within it he possesses certain mystic values which he can find nowhere else. If one is born into a given fellowship he possesses not only its beliefs, its habits of thought, its hopes and its spiritual protection, but a certain *at-homeness,* a certain sense of psychological possession which can never exactly be found elsewhere. It is therefore a matter of deep concern for any one to contemplate the transition from one fellowshhip to another.

* *

AMONG the scores of similar communications which come to us almost daily, the following extract from a letter from a young man in a distant part of the country illustrates the spiritual processes which are going on to-day.

"I have just got through reading

your clipping in the paper that you had free literature to send to any who would wish it. I would desire to have some of your literature as I am in a literary club here and I could put some in the club-room also. I would thank you very much for some. However, please do not send the literature or letters to my address, as my father is a minister of the Church of Christ (?) and does not let me read any other religious books or pamphlets but the unscriptural church of which I will not be a member. He learned that I had been reading from a debate in which his side was hopelessly defeated by Erasmus Manford, the great Universalist champion. Of course I have to go to church three times a week at which I have to hear nothing much but a long harangue against Universalists and Unitarians. They have even gone so far as to take away my pocket money. It makes it so very uncomfortable that I am not going to stand it, but am going to ———— in another part of the state. If people would only 'Prove all things, Hold fast that which is good' how easy we would be comforted! Of course, I will leave with very little money but the Lord will provide and before I go I wanted to get some of your literature."

THE foregoing letter needs no commentary. It simply goes to show that the old bottles cannot contain the new wine. The rising generation breathes an atmosphere that is ruinous to mediæval theology. In Oklahoma City there is being waged a battle royal. On the one side is the entire Ministerial Alliance composed of all the Protestant "evangelical" ministers of the city. On the other side one gentle-mannered, thoughtful, long-suffering Unitarian minister. The newspapers are alert, and publish all that is being said upon both sides. The Unitarian services are crowded. The public, imbued with the spirit of the times, evinces the most sympathetic attention and expresses admiration for the "little minister" who, with the truth on his side and the progressive spirit in his thought and speech, is more than a match for all the ridicule and vituperation that is being heaped upon him. With such opposition a Unitarian church can be defined and established in any city of moderate proportions.

IF any Christian body in the world is authorized to announce "good news" in opposition to a gospel of death and misery, if any church ever fulfilled a mission of moral and spiritual healing, of deliverance to those in captivity, the opening of blind eyes, and the proclamation of a genuine year of the Lord, the Unitarians have everything to gain and nothing to lose. Every Unitarian should appreciate these conditions and do his or her utmost to keep alive the coals on its altars, to strengthen the hands of its prophets, and sing its glorious songs of real and triumphant evangelism.

WE have been receiving numerous clippings from ministers of other churches who have seen fit to discuss Unitarianism. Recent addresses by Dr. Charles W. Eliot have brought forth numerous comments, some in favor but mostly antagonistic to the positions he has taken. To the average Unitarian it seems unaccountable that statements so perfectly reasonable and so in harmony with the scientific knowledge of our time should be called in question. It is still true that many people (especially many ministers) seem to do their thinking in compartments. The kind of thinking they do when considering

religion is upon an entirely different order than that employed when discussing business or politics or any subject bearing upon the practical life of mankind. Such thinking is done in the compartment of ordinary commonsense and good judgment, but when they take up the subject of religion they leave that section of their intellectual life, close the door behind them, and enter a room devoted to religious thought. In this room there is nothing that would indicate that the world had progressed for the last six hundred years. Its walls are adorned with the heroes of mediæval asceticism. The books on its shelves are those which were written when the sun was supposed to revolve around the earth. Everywhere are indications of the scholastic life of the Middle Ages, and the discussions that take place in that room fit, with wonderful accuracy, the forms of thought which were in vogue when no one doubted that God created the universe in six solar days and molded man out of a piece of wet clay. Such are the curious inconsistencies that are stimulated and supported by denominational differences. When will the average "theologian" use the same methods of thought in the two primary compartments of his intellectual existence?

AMONG the many clippings that come to us from the newspapers one has been duplicated many times. Only one reply to the statement in this clipping has been made, and that by the Rev. William Lindsay of the Unitarian Church of Dover, N. H. His communication to the Boston "Post" we reproduce in full.

"To the Editor of the Post:

"Sir—In this day's *Post,* under the double caption, 'Pastor Scores Unitarianism—Stormy Night at Sea Sure Cure He Says,' Unitarianism is held up to ridicule by the Rev. John McNeill of Pittsburg.

"You report him—was he formerly a Scotch Calvanistic Evangelist?—as saying in connection with his exposition of the alleged walking by Jesus on the waters of Galilee: 'There were no poor, dyspeptic, anemic Unitarians left in the bunch. Let them go out to sea on a stormy night. There were no Unitarians there—they were Trinitarians.'

"In the first place, the 'bunch' of fishermen in question appear to have been orthodox Jews, that is, believers in one God; men who knew nothing of the later doctrine of the Trinity. The Jews of Jesus' time were monotheists and so was Jesus. Witness the prayer he taught: 'Our Father.'

"Next, Mr. Editor, did you not inform the world through your columns at the time the Titanic went down, that the band played and her passengers sank into eternity singing that grand hymn composed by a Unitarian, 'Nearer My God to Thee?'

"I leave your readers to draw their own conclusions as to the worth of Mr. McNeill's strictures in the light of the above remarks."

(Signed)
WILLIAM LINDSAY.

In the above communication Mr. Lindsay has certainly pointed out a very great truth; namely, that the faith inspired by the free spirit is identical with that which Jesus maintained and taught. Such faith may not depend for its validity upon the creeds of Christendom, but it is elemental in character and is triumphant in the tempest at sea as well as among the trials and temptations of a stormy world. It can be depended upon for spiritual fortitude in this world and a serene acceptance of whatever the soul may encounter in the world to come.

American Unitarian Association

Headquarters: 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, D.D., *President* — Henry M. Williams, *Treasurer*

Rev. Lewis G. Wilson, *Secretary* — F. Stanley Howe, *Assistant Secretary*

Ministerial Personals

Rev. Russell N. Bellows died at Waverley on March 13th, 1914.

Rev. Walter S. Swisher has resigned at Passaic, N. J., to accept a call to New London, Conn.

Rev. B. W. Morrison has resigned at Barnstable, Mass.

Rev. C. M. Perry was ordained and installed at Iowa City, Iowa, on March 10th.

Rev. P. D. Dansingberg has resigned at St. Cloud, Minn., to accept a call to Kansas City, Mo.

Rev. C. T. S. Bullock has accepted a call to Ottawa, Canada.

Rev. F. R. Lewis of Hopedale has accepted a call to North Easton, Mass., Rev. C. W. Casson of Ottawa to Roslindale, and Rev. S. B. Nobbs to Marlboro.

Journeys

The Sunday appointments of the President of the Association for March were at New Haven, Conn.; Clinton, Mass.; Sanford, Maine, and Ithaca, N. Y.

The Secretary of the Association is now in Virginia. He will work with the new churches at Norfolk, Lynchburg and Roanoke, make a visit to Charlotte, N. C., and hold a meeting of the Virginia ministers at Richmond.

The Secretary of the Department of Church Extension has just returned from a journey which included appointments at Hartford and New Haven, Conn.; Ann Arbor, Mich.; Urbana and Chicago, Ill.; Iowa City, Iowa; Dayton, O., and Wheeling, W. Va.

Field Secretary Brown spent two weeks of last month in Maine, concerned chiefly with the affairs of the churches in Waterville and Ellsworth, and with the circuit in the Hancock Conference. He has now gone to Texas to take up the work of the new society at Houston.

Rev. Florence Buck, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Religious Education, is recovering from an operation for appendicitis and is now visiting friends in Atlanta, Ga. Professor Starbuck, Lecturer of the Department, has been meeting a number of appointments in the Northwest.

Finances

The fiscal year of the Association ends on April 30th, and if the churches wish to maintain their voting membership they must see to it that their contributions reach the Treasurer before that date. It has more and more become the habit of the churches to make the Easter collection their contribution for the national work, and this is a practice to be commended if only a thorough canvass is made before the date of the collection. It is deplorable to discover how many churches still seem to think that when the contribution boxes have been passed at a Sunday service they have discharged their entire duty. The churches that give largely to the national work are not necessarily the rich churches, but the churches where there has been an effective campaign and where each member has been given an opportunity to subscribe. To make this all-important work hinge upon the weather of Easter Sunday and the size of the congregation is an

insufficient discharge of responsibility.

During the last month a number of parishes have completed their contributions for the year, and it is a pleasure to note considerable gains in the gifts of the churches in Lexington, Leominster, First Salem, Medford, Mass., Dover, N. H. Yonkers, N. Y., and Santa Ana, Cal. The First Parish at Hingham again makes a record of steady gain for the past ten years, and there is another substantial gain in the contribution from Cleveland, Ohio. Now is the time for prompt and generous action on the part of Ministers, Alliances, Sunday Schools and Parish officers.

Department of Religious Education

In the March number of WORD AND WORK a summary view was given of manuals published by this department that treat of the Bible. It was there urged that the teachers using any one of these and wishing more help would do well to procure others of our manuals covering the same field, even though these might have been published for older or for younger pupils. Before buying the more expensive books, it would be well to test these inexpensive manuals, in which may be found the very help needed.

In this number of WORD AND WORK it is proposed to call attention to books other than manuals that may be found helpful to teachers of the Bible. No attempt will be made to present a list either critical or exhaustive, but only to mention a few out of the multitude of books on the subject, aiming to select those that may be most easily procured and used by the non-critical student.

Let us suppose, then, that one wants to know something about the Bible as a book, regarded as a whole rather than about the various parts. We commend the following:

"The Origin and Character of the Bible," by J. T. Sunderland, is most helpful. It is published by the A. U. A. at $1.20. Joseph Wood's "The Bible: What it is and is not," also published by this house and selling for $1.00, has long been a favorite.

"The Bible as English Literature," by Prof. J. H. Gardner, of Harvard, is all that the title and author lead us to expect. A larger book is W. F. Moulton's "History of the Bible," while larger and more exhaustive than either is B. F. Westcott's "A General View of the English Bible." Much smaller than any of these is Richard Lovett's "The Printed English Bible," published by the Religious Tract Society, of London, at a shilling. Moulton's "Modern Reader's Bible," by its arrangement of the Biblical material in modern literary form, often throws a flood of light on the meaning. It is a highly valuable work.

Coming a little nearer the contents of the book, we may commend Washington Gladden's "Who Wrote the Bible?" W. C. Selleck's "New Appreciation of the Bible," and Dr. George Hodge's "A Child's Guide to the Bible," the last named containing, like all Dean Hodge's books for children, meat for men as well as milk for babes.

For accurate and satisfying knowledge of the contents of the Bible there is no single book that will compare in value with a good Bible Dictionary. So important is such a work that it should be regarded as a necessary part of every school's equipment,—as necessary as a musical instrument or a book of songs and services. Still better were it if every teacher had such a work constantly at hand. There are two large dictionaries re-

garded as satisfactory by scholars, the Encyclopedia Biblica, and the so-called Hastings' Dictionary. As these are in several large volumes, and therefore expensive, one turns to the one-volume Hastings, published by Scribner's and sold for five dollars, which is abundantly full for all practical purposes. By all means let every Sunday-school teacher have access to this volume.

More directly introductory to the Bible as a whole is "Book by Book," the parts of which are written by various eminent scholars in England. It is a large book, having 550 pages. Better, perhaps, for most people are such sets of books as the Cambridge Bible and the Century Bible, which devote single small volumes to each book in the Bible in succession, giving the text, a full introduction and a running commentary. While either of these sets of books as a whole would be costly, one may buy single volumes treating of whatever Bible books he wishes to study. For a more exhaustive study of the Biblical books there is the International Critical Commentary, a long row of large volumes, exhaustive and scholarly.

For the Old Testament alone, Canon Driver's "Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament" is still highly serviceable, as it has been for a generation. It was one of the earlier issues of the International Theological Library. The price is $2.50. Non-critical students soon learn to skip the Hebrew and Greek references and much of the fine print, and so find the book highly serviceable. Shorter, and less obviously critical, though none the less the work of a master, is Prof. George F. Moore's "The Literature of the Old Testament," which sells for fifty cents. This is worthy of a place in every library.

For the New Testament, Rev. James Moffatt's "Introduction to the Literature of the New Testament" is, as its title indicates, one of the International Theological Library series, having the same characteristics as Dr. Driver's work, though it has not won an equal acceptance. Here, again, we have a smaller and more easily followed treatment of the same subject in Prof. B. W. Bacon's "Introduction to the Books of the New Testament," and his other book, "The Making of the New Testament." For a full and authoritative treatment, Zahn's "Introduction to the New Testament," in three large volumes, is excellent.

Many books on the Gospels might be mentioned, no one of which surpasses in compactness and scholarly exactness Carpenter's "The First Three Gospels" which may be procured of the A. U. A. at seventy-five cents.

The Association also publishes free tracts dealing with various aspects of the Bible, among which attention may be called to numbers 33, 69, 80, 85, 145, 208, 237 and 265. These may be ordered freely by number.

If this list seems long and the books promise to be difficult, it should be remembered that the Bible is a large book, contains literature of a far-off time, covering a vast range, and is the centre of scholarly interest, as it has been for centuries. Such a book cannot be treated briefly, nor can any one work satisfy all tastes or all needs. But every teacher should have and use at least one good book that approaches the subject in a scholarly way.

In the next number of WORD AND WORK books on teaching and the understanding of developing life will be discussed.

Department of Social and Public Service

A very successful conference on the problems of the country church was held in Boston during the first week in March. This series of meetings was particularly notable in that it was held under the auspices of the social service commissions of six of the leading Protestant denominations, Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, Unitarian and Universalist. The interdenominational character of the meetings was still further emphasized by holding the four sessions of the conference in the Congregational House, the Unitarian headquarters, the Baptist Ford Building, and the First Methodist Church, The addresses all dealt with subjects of living interest and covered a wide range. The papers dealing with what has actually been done naturally aroused the greatest interest. The first address of the conference by Rev. Howard F. Legg, of Wilbraham, Mass., on "The Community Church," was a striking demonstration of the value of church federation in a small community. Two small churches, a Methodist and a Congregational, which had been struggling for years to maintain themselves, were brought together by a chain of unusual circumstances. The results have been so fine, the cause of religion has been served so well, the forces for good have become so united, that it would seem many other towns ought to take the initiative and effect some such combination without waiting for an uncommon experience to bring them together. There are hundreds of small communities which would be infinitely benefited by the amalgamation of churches, thus forming one strong, united, well-equipped organization. Local associations are dear, denominational rivalries are sharp, but the interests of the Kingdom of God are more than either, and the example of Wilbraham deserves careful consideration. Another very interesting address was by Dr. Silas E. Persons of Cazenovia, N. Y., a Presbyterian clergyman, who described fully the remarkable work which has been done by himself and his church in supplying wholesome recreation for the country districts in his vicinity. All reasonable forms of amusement, dancing, card-playing, athletics, picnics and the like, find a place in his scheme, and he has proved beyond question that it is within the power of the local churches to take the leadership in this most important social development. Professor F. W. Howe of Syracuse University, who spoke on "The Economic Problem of the Country," laid special emphasis on the necessity for a living wage for the country minister if effective leadership is to be expected. Everything in the country rests on an economic foundation, the home, the school, and the church. He thought if the country minister could be assured of three acres of land, a comfortable house and $750 a year that good men would be attracted to the rural districts and that life would be improved by their presence. In every respect the conference was stimulating. Visitors were present from widely separated points, Cape Cod, the extreme western part of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Connecticut, and they carried away with them many useful suggestions, and not the least valuable was the fine example of interchurch co-operation.

Since the first of January Mr. Samuel B. Nobbs has been visiting a number of men's clubs in New England as the agent of the National League of Unitarian Laymen. The appointments have been arranged for

him by the secretary of the Department, who is now the secretary of the League, and in every place where he has been the cause of social service has been strongly presented. Mr. Nobbs has also been of assistance in the formation of clubs in four churches which hitherto have not had them. In each case the obligation of the men of the churches to serve the common good has been clearly set forth. The League believes that every club should be interested in the local social welfare, and one reason for their organization in all churches which now do not have them is that the churches, through their agency, may be able better to fulfil their social obligations. Mr. Nobbs is an interesting speaker, and has won high praise wherever he has been. Mr. Forbes will be glad to hear from any churches or clubs which would like to arrange a date for a visit from him.

The next issue of the social service bulletin is entitled "The Church and New Americans," by Mr. George W. Tupper, Ph. D., the immigration secretary of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. It is a rather remarkable article, as Dr. Tupper takes a position in respect to new Americans which has not yet become common. He believes that the Protestant churches should not attempt to influence the religious convictions of the newcomers. The habits of thought which are the result of generations of training cannot be easily changed. The Jews would better remain Jews, and the Roman Catholics would better stay in their own churches, and he regards it as a subject for congratulation that so few have been induced to change their faith. The work of the Protestants is to supply sympathy and help to the bewildered strangers who are pouring in upon us from the Old World. It is not our duty to make them into Unitarians or Methodists or any other kind of Protestant, but it is our business to teach them American ideals and to make them loyal citizens of the republic. This bulletin can be had for free distribution on application to the Department at 25 Beacon Street, Boston.

Publication Department

The New Hymn and Tune Book, which was definitely announced in the last number of WORD AND WORK, is now complete and ready for delivery. The sample copies which have been requested by the churches have been sent to them, and orders are already coming in for the books. It is hoped that all churches which are seriously considering new hymn books will take advantage of the offer made some time ago to have a sample copy sent to them, and that all orders may be placed with us at an early date in order that the book may speedily find its way into general use among Unitarian societies.

The new arrivals for the month are "Self-Training for Motherhood," by Sophia Lovejoy, and "Religion as a Personal Experience," by William M. Brundage. A full description of these will be found in the back cover of this issue of WORD AND WORK, and the material contained within them is commended to our readers.

The "Address to Young Men," by President Charles W. Eliot, is now in hand and ready for delivery, while "The Test," by Burt Estes Howard, will doubtless be ready in time for announcement in the May number of WORD AND WORK.

By arrangement with the Sunday School Association of London, the Publication Department is now issuing a little book, entitled "Twelve

Hymns and Their Writers," by Valentine D. Davis. This includes biographical sketches and lesson notes on: John Milton, Thomas Ken, Isaac Watts, Charles Wesley, William Cowper, Jean F. Oberlin, John Johns, John G. Whittier, Norman McLeod, Samuel Longfellow, Alice Cary and Alfred Tennyson. For those interested in the work and lives of these famous hymn-writers this little book of 128 pages should be most valuable. The price is 25 cents; by mail, 30 cents.

For Easter

What is better for an Easter remembrance, from friend to friend, from teacher to class, or from pastor to people, than an artistic card bearing a noble message of faith? Two such cards are available this year and may be ordered from our Unitarian headquarters. The first is Miss Anne Cleveland Cheney's beautiful poem on The Little Stone Church at The Isles of Shoals. It has been set in a fitting design by Miss Blanche Russell, and is printed on cards 5 by 8 inches, suitable for pasting in a hymn book or for framing. The price is ten cents, or if illuminated in colors by the artist, twenty-five cents, the proceeds going toward the repair fund of the little meeting house the Shoals' people love so well. It may be ordered from Miss Grace R. Torr, 25 Beacon Street, Boston.

The second suggestion is a card in five colors, of unusual artistic merit and containing Psalm 121 in full. The size is 5 1-2 x 8 inches. The price is ten cents for single cards in envelopes, one dollar a dozen and seven dollars and a half a hundred. It is seldom one finds a card so rich and yet chaste as this. It may be ordered in any quantity from the Unitarian Book Room at 25 Beacon Street.

Department of Foreign Relations

The interest of the Unitarian fellowship in the opportunities and duties of its foreign work is steadily increasing. On the 10th of March the Board of Directors of the American Unitarian Association listened sympathetically to Rev. J. T. Sunderland, recently returned from a journey around the world as a Billings lecturer, while he gave an account of the truly wonderful receptivity of the Oriental world to the Unitarian message. Rev. C. W. Wendte described the Pilgrim International Congresses now being arranged, to be undertaken next autumn in Turkey, Palestine, Egypt, India, Ceylon, China and Japan.

On the 16th inst., the Unitarian Women's League of New York held a session in the Lenox Avenue Church, which was addressed by Revs. C. W. Wendte, William Sullivan and Merle St. Croix Wright on "Unitarianism as a World Religion." A handsome collection was taken up for Mr. Conte's Italian work.

At the Meadville Theological School Rev. C. W. Wendte gave a course of four lectures on Missions, which were well received.

The Bulgarian Refugee Fund of the American Unitarian Association has risen to over $1,000 and is now closed.

The Social Service Club of the Japanese Unitarian Mission now has over 3,000 members.

In Meadville one of the Italian students has brought into the Sunday School of the local Unitarian church over 40 Italian children.

In Philadelphia and New York City Rev. Mr. Taglialatela has begun a most promising work on Unitarian lines, holding services in our American churches and enrolling the children.

The Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women

Headquarters: Room 10, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Miss Anna M. Bancroft, *President*
Hopedale, Mass.

Mrs. Caroline S. Atherton, *Rec. Sec.*,
25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Lucia Clapp Noyes, *Treasurer*
11 St. John St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Mrs. Robert H. Davis, *Cor. Sec.*,
226 Windermere Ave., Wayne, Pa.

Alliance branches may appropriately devote both time and money to the development of the Sunday School. Among all denominations an increasing amount of emphasis is being laid on the importance of the religious training of the young people. There are definite and practical ways in which the branch may give its assistance, and local conditions should be studied to determine the greatest needs of the school. Some branches have assisted in establishing and maintaining kindergarten departments in the local Sunday School by bearing the expense of a paid kindergartner. A kindergarten held during the church hour interests the child, strengthens the Sunday School and increases church attendance among parents of small children. Occasional visits by Alliance members to the opening services of the school help to increase the dignity and importance of such services, and the smaller the school, the more it will benefit from these visits. The Alliance branch ought also to be responsive to the appeals of the minister or Superintendent for teachers in those parishes where the Sunday School must depend upon volunteer workers.

A branch is doing a most admirable thing if it is sending or helping to send some girl to the Tuckerman School for training. Such trained workers are needed not only in many home churches, but in the general field. A group of neighboring branches might co-operate in sending a student to Tuckerman, and later share her services in the development of their several Sunday Schools. Excellent training for Sunday School workers is provided by the summer schools or conferences held at Meadville, Pa., the Isles of Shoals and Andover, N. H. The programs of these Institutes are most carefully planned by the Department of Religious Education of the American Unitarian Association, and none are too expensive to attend—where the bare cost of living is the only expenditure required. If every Alliance branch should appropriate a sum sufficient to send one or more of its Sunday School teachers and superintendent to one of these summer meetings, the Sunday Schools would increase remarkably in efficiency.

The department of the American Unitarian Association which has in its charge all general Sunday School work is limited in its possibilities only as it is limited in its resources. In the past year about twenty-five per cent. of Alliance branches contributed to this purpose. Is it not possible this year to increase the number to a generous majority of the branches. What is *your* branch doing to develop the Sunday School in your church?

Jessie E. Donahue,
Chairman Sunday School Committee.

Our College Youth

A growing enthusiasm would seem to be the dominant note in college town work, if the Alliance committee hears aright. At Vassar College Unitarian enthusiasm has aroused comment, as if the two words were in-

capable of juxtaposition! There is something definite behind the words—Witness the regular monthly services at Poughkeepsie, which one girl writes home that she would not miss for anything, and proves her earnestness by contributing to their support from her spending money.

The Unitarian Club at Smith College sounds the same note. The members are sewing for the Children's Mission of Boston. Their meetings are excellent. Never was the spirit finer. The social relations with the local church are cordial. At Wellesley there is reported a growing desire among the Unitarian girls to line up and have occasional meetings together. A reception recently given them at the Wellesley Hills parsonage was much appreciated. At Norton, Massachusetts, the Wheaton College girls have united with the Junior Alliance in a most enjoyable social meeting.

From Eugene, Oregon, comes word of a large class of college students in the Sunday School led by the wife of a professor at the University. There is co-operation also with the local branch of the Young People's Religious Union.

One of our girls at college where there is no local Unitarian church wrote to ask what Unitarians are doing to suppress Mormonism. She said that although she herself is persuaded of the influence of Unitarians, as individuals, for clear thinking and upright living, she has often found it hard to hold her own and present the case convincingly to others, who speak glibly of their Mission Boards. The intensely interesting letters received from the girls make the efforts of the committee seem ever increasingly worth while.

The Boston local committee, like the New York committee, has endeavored to find suitable boarding places for students who make application. The student secretary employed by King's Chapel Alliance has done a wonderful work, calling on the girls, winning their friendship, and receiving them at the Parish House on Sunday evenings when meetings have been arranged in their interest.

But rooms are not always to be found, those on the certified list may be occupied by the middle of the season, and the experience of the student who tried one hundred places and came to the Alliance headquarters in despair, has led to the conclusion that a club center is needed, where congenial people of refinement and culture may have attractive surroundings and social advantages. The students' clubs already existing in other parts of the city are full to overflowing, and the committee believes there is a demand for such a club center near Beacon Hill. Hence comes the great interest in Unity House, that will be under Unitarian auspices, and will recognize the prior claim of girls from Unitarian families.

Mrs. Keyes, New England Vice-President, was in the chair at the meeting of the Executive Board on March 13th. Miss Bancroft sent greetings from the South, where, in company with Miss Lowell, Director, she has been visiting the preaching stations, schools and neighborhood centers of the North Carolina Circuit.

The Treasurer reported that Mrs. E. L. Osgood and Mrs. Lilla Bancroft Bracken have become life members. *In Memoriam* have been placed the names of Miss Mary F. Aspinwall, Buffalo; Mrs. Sylvia J. W. Reed, Lexington; Mrs. Cordelia J. Bowen, Providence; Mrs. H. B. Draper, Boston; Mrs. Frances A. Blan-

chard, Concord, New Hampshire; Mrs. Lura Bancroft Day, Hopedale, and Mrs. Marcus W. Burdick, Providence.

The Junior Alliance Committee has sent a set of questions to each branch that should bring much valuable information if the answers are complete. Will every president see that full returns are promptly mailed to the chairman?

Special attention is called to the message of the Sunday School Committee printed in this issue of WORD AND WORK. Here is an opportunity for every branch to act promptly and serve a department of work that no other can exceed in vital importance now and for the future.

The leaflet Services and Hymns for Alliance Meetings may be ordered from The Alliance, 25 Beacon Street, Boston. The cost is 5 cents for a single copy, in lots of 25 or more at the rate of $3.50 per hundred. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Lucia Clapp Noyes, Treasurer.

The Alliance is entitled to two delegates to the annual meeting of the International Union of Liberal Religious Women, to be held in London in May. The President and the chairman of the International Committee will endeavor to find two Alliance members who can attend this session. The Genevan women are eager to reach the liberal women of France to help them to organize and become allied with the International Union. They have turned to the British League and to The Alliance for encouragement and aid. A gift of fifty dollars, contributed by interested branches, will materially assist the Genevan workers and serve to bind us all more closely together.

The Alliance will hold two meetings Anniversary Week, Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning. The subject of the public meeting on May 25th at 2.30 P. M., will be "The Challenge of the World to the Church." Mrs. Troward H. Marshall of Dayton, Ohio, will speak of "The Challenge in the Middle West." Dr. Merle St. Croix Wright of "The Challenge in the Great City." Rev. William Sullivan will present "The Challenge from Across the Water." An opening service from the new leaflet will be used. The business meeting of Wednesday, May 27th, will begin at 10 A. M. Both meetings will be held in the South Congregational Church. Branches should choose their delegates in accordance with the by-laws, Articles III, I, and XI. And now is the time to vote to pay the traveling expenses of those delegates from the branch treasury.

The Executive Board, standing, recorded its grateful respect for the memory of Mrs. Sarah E. Hooper, whose death occurred on February 18th, and its appreciation of the value to an organization like The Alliance of such long, faithful, and loving service and loyalty as hers. Mrs. Hooper, with Miss Abby May, was one of the founders in 1880 of the Women's Auxiliary Conference, which in 1890 became the National Alliance, and from the beginning she was an officer or director of one or the other of these organizations.

Two resignations are recorded with regret, that of Mrs. Emma Noble Delano, for many years Western Vice-President, and that of Mrs. Spencer of Santa Barbara, recently elected to represent that part of California.

Mrs. Mitchell of Pittsburgh was cordially welcomed and invited to speak for western Pennsylvania.

It is hoped that Mrs. Davis will visit Iowa branches and attend the Meadville Conference.

The next meeting will occur on April 10th, when reports will be received from the West and Middle West.

The officers of Unity Home Branch, newly formed in New Bedford, Mass., are: Mrs. Louis H. Buckshorn, president, 336 Coffin Avenue; Mrs. Albert Dickinson, secretary, 318 Bowditch Street; Mrs. David Waugh, treasurer, 1057 County Street.

CAROLINE S. ATHERTON,
Recording Secretary.

The Committee for the Fifield Memorial acknowledges contributions amounting to $446.41 from sixty-three branches and four individuals. From $1,200 to $1,500 will be needed to fit up and furnish the living room of "Unity House" as a suitable memorial to her to whom The Alliance owes a debt of gratitude for her long and devoted service and for her wise counsels in furthering its interests. Had she lived, we feel sure there would have been no more loyal supporter than Mrs. Fifield of this plan to establish a student home in Boston for daughters of Unitarian families who come here from all over the country for the purposes of study. Mrs. Fifield's heart and helping hand always went out to young people everywhere. It is hoped that every Alliance member will wish to have a share in this memorial. Three hundred and thirty-four branches are still to be heard from. Contributions should be sent to the treasurer of The Alliance, Mrs. Noyes.

An illustrated lecture is in process of making that will, it is hoped, tell a graphic story of our many branches in their wide diversity of conditions and interests, and will also describe various departments of Alliance work. The chairman of the committee desires Alliance branch news and pictures. She has already a sufficient supply of church pictures. Will branches send in response to this call items of interest and pictures that will serve to give other workers some definite idea of what they are doing, and where, and how, and why?

Address

MRS. F. M. KEEZER,
1243 Columbine Street,
Denver, Colorado.

Mrs. Tuttle reports for Ayer, Chelmsford, Littleton, Lowell, Pepperell and Westford. Billerica makes a practice of inviting some one of the neighboring branches to each of its meetings. Groton intends soon to place a memorial tablet to Mrs. B. Ward Dix, President of The Alliance, in the First Parish Meeting House.

Mrs. Rice reports for Dedham, North Easton, Sharon, Eastondale, Walpole and Canton. Westwood has as usual maintained a summer camp for girls with heart trouble. Dover makes much of its Christmas festival and has a gift for every child and for every unmarried person in the parish. Walpole hopes to have all dollar members next year, as a result of Miss Bancroft's visit.

Miss Smith reports from Duxbury, Green Harbor, Plymouth, Kingston, Hingham and Middleboro. Plymouth and Green Harbor meet every week throughout the year. Duxbury says, "We wear The Alliance pin and are proud of membership in such a loyal body of women." Middleboro is a banner branch, accomplishing much with few workers.

Mrs. Coffin submits a general summary of the branches at Brookfield, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Northboro, Sturbridge, Uxbridge and Westboro. The total local membership is 486, 60 being dollar members. There

are Post Office Mission committees in three branches and Cheerful Letter committees in two. These committees have sent out over 400 magazines, besides newspapers, books and toys. Brookfield has installed a motor to furnish power to blow the organ. Grafton maintains a scholarship at Dix House. Hopedale has a fund of $5,000, to be known as the Nannie Bristow Draper Fund, given by the Hon. Eben S. Draper for charitable purposes.

Mrs. Friend reports for Lynn, Marblehead, Beverly and the three branches at Salem. The Salem branches hold interesting union meetings and much distribution of Unitarian literature may be credited to all the branches in this section.

Miss Whitman reports for Boston, the Church of the Messiah and the New South, Roslindale, and the First Religious Society, Roxbury. West Roxbury has a new choral society for the young people and has joined the other Protestant churches in Lenten services. All Souls', Roxbury, and Chestnut Hill maintain classes at the South End Industrial School, and Jamaica Plain has one of the most successful of our Junior Branches.

Miss Marquand writes: "As a rule the staid old churches in Essex County lead a quiet influential existence, one year much like the preceding, and the Alliance Branches are so closely allied to the churches that there is rarely any great change. One change this year was the formation of the Danvers branch in May, 1913. It has grown from 32 members to 64. It has held dancing classes, matronized by the older members of the Branch, and has been sewing for the Home for the Aged. The First Church at Haverhill has had a struggle for its life, but it is hoped that the crisis is passed and the Alliance is helping actively in the work of the church. Miss Marquand reports also for Danvers, Gloucester, Lawrence, North Andover and Peabody.

Mrs. Coolidge reports for Brockton, Whitman, Bridgewater; East Bridgewater, which has been using Anna Garlin Spencer's "Woman's Share in Social Culture" for its Study Class; South Carver, Brewster, Sandwich, and Barnstable. A Neighborhood Meeting is held each year on Cape Cod. In 1913, the turn came to Brewster, which is the farthest away from 25 Beacon Street of any Branch on the Cape. The time chosen was after the county fair at Barnstable, and before cranberry-picking. September 3rd was chosen as the day when minds might be turned to thoughts of religion. The new Director was asked to address the assembly on the "Conservation of Social Forces." She was longing for the "Oracle of Delphi," when word came from Beacon St. that her oracle was to be found in Concord. The voice said: "Choose a subject that you know something about!" or words to that effect. Thereupon, an address on "Our Young People in the Churches" was prepared for that meeting.

Miss Lowell has visited all eight Branches under her care—five in Dorchester, Neponset, Milton and Hyde Park. First Parish, Dorchester is so large and flourishing as to have no problems but to be as inspiration to other large branches to go and do likewise. Neponset makes a brave fight for life, the neighborhood changes fast, the old church members move away and the new people are almost all Roman Catholic. Milton is another large and vigorous Branch, doing work of a practical, social service kind, and having papers from its own members on "The Women of the Bible." Hyde Park is another

brave Branch, doing a great deal towards the support of its church, but remembering the outside world by giving small sums to the appeals and to the Fifield Memorial.

Reports have come from the branches under the care of Mrs. Joseph White, Athol, Barre, Gardner, Petersham and Templeton. Ashby has been using the leaflet Representative Women. Athol has a novel feature in the 10-cent teas held on different lawns during the summer to fill the treasury and promote sociability. Winchendon members, while feeling deeply the double loss of Mrs. Free and Mrs. White, have pledged themselves anew to the work which has fallen to their hands.

Miss Barnard reports from Warwick, one of the smallest branches, with only *six* members, but the six are very earnest; from Deerfield, which stands "to quicken the religious life of its members" and does not attempt to raise money, and from Montague, Northfield, Rowe and Greenfield.

Mrs. Holden writes that the reports of the Executive Board meetings sent to her Branches during the past year have apparently increased the interest in the general work of the Board. Berlin was one of the first branches to respond to the Fifield Memorial. The Unity Alliance in Worcester, which was Dr. Hale's first parish, has presented the Hale Parish House in Washington with a silver coffee urn. The new branch at Bolton, although mainly carrying on the work of the old Sewing Society, is deriving much help from the cordial reception they have received at the hands of their sister branches. Mrs. Holden reports also for Shirley, Sterling, Clinton, Fitchburg, Leominster and the Worcester League.

Mrs. Standish reports for Boston, First Church, Second Church, South Congregational Church, and Unity Circle. The Arlington Street Branch is interested in the Public Library at Campobello, for which it is planned to raise a fund of $5,000 as a memorial to Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells. The First Church Branch supports a free bed in the Hospital for Women in Brookline.

In an earlier number of WORD AND WORK we accredited to another Colorado branch the achievement of Colorado Springs. With indefatigable energy the women have worked to pay for the new organ, while they regularly pay the salary of the organist. It is a pleasure to note the good results of their devotion and loyalty to their church.

The Carlisle Branch will hold an Easter sale, Thursday, April 9. Contributions will be gratefully received by Miss Lillian W. Ricker, Carlisle, Mass., Secretary.

Appeals stand thus:

Green Harbor, Mass., for preaching at Grace Chapel	$ 20.00
Pacific School Students	$ 20.00
Edmonton, Alta., for church furnishings	$145.00
Norton, Mass., for a parsonage	$ 39.00
Vancouver, B. C., for church furnishings	$116.00
Atlanta, Ga., for church furnishings	$284.00
Work in Italy, under Signor Conte	$ 49.00

Young People's Religious Union of the Unitarian Church

Headquarters; Room 11, 25 Beacon Street, Boston

MR. SANFORD BATES, *President*

Miss GRACE R. TORR, *Secretary* Mr. O. ARTHUR MCMURDIE, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting

The eighth regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the Young People's Religious Union for 1913-1914 was held in Room 11, 25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass., on Tuesday afternoon, March 3, 1914, at 2 o'clock.

President Bates presided and there were present:—Mr. Hooper, Mr. Ives, Miss Richards, Miss Simmons and the secretary.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved as read.

In the absence of the treasurer, the secretary read his report.

Voted: That it be accepted.

The secretary then read the bills for the month.

Voted: That the bills be paid.

The secretary read her report for the month of February, 1914, which report was accepted.

Miss Simmons, for the Union-at-Large, reported having sent out 80 tracts with the WORD AND WORK for February.

The Annual Meeting programme was reported by the president.

Miss Simmons, for the Publication Committee, reported having succeeded in getting together three pamphlets. To determine which would be best for our purpose, these should be gone over carefully by the Board members.

Voted: That this matter be deferred until the next meeting; but that in the meantime the manuscripts be sent to the different directors for inspection.

Mr. Hooper, for the Extension Committee, reported having secured supervisors for all the districts except the Middle West; letters are about to be sent to churches without unions, and another circular letter is to be prepared for churches with unions.

Voted: That the letter of the Temperance Society be answered in the affirmative.

Voted: To adjourn.

GRACE R. TORR, *Secretary.*

Eighteenth Annual Meeting

The eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Young People's Religious Union will be held at the South Congregational Church (Dr. Hale's) on Thursday of Anniversary Week, May 28. The afternoon meeting at two o'clock will be devoted to reports, election of officers and other business. At the close of this session, Rev. J. T. Sunderland, D. D., will speak on "What the Young People's Religious Union Can Do to Give Our Unitarian Faith to the Orient."

From five to six o'clock, the Boston Federation will tender a reception to the outgoing and incoming officers, and at six o'clock a repast will be served to the delegates.

For the evening meeting an especially attractive programme has been arranged. Rev. William G. Eliot, Jr., of Portland, Oregon, will conduct the devotional service; and there will be three addresses on "The Opportunity for Social Service of Unitarian Young People," to be presented from three points of view, the speakers to be Hon. Grafton D. Cushing, Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Dr. Richard C. Cabot of

the Massachusetts General Hospital and Rev. John Haynes Holmes of New York City. A chorus of young people from the Boston Federation will furnish the music on this occasion.

Contributions

As the treasurer's books for the year close on April 30, there remain but four weeks more for contributions to be made for the year. Unions that have not already contributed are urged to see how much they can raise in this time.

The budget for the year calls for $2,100, and includes merely the legitimate expenses—secretary's salary, office expenses, Students' Assistants ($800 for this work being pledged at the last Annual Meeting) and publications.

Of the above amount a little over $300 has been contributed by the Unions; and there is available $750 from the Fair receipts for this year's work, leaving a balance of $1,050 to be contributed by the Unions in the next two months.

Beyond the above budget, a definite plan of extension work is being mapped out, which will need a great deal more money.

Send your contributions to the treasurer, Room 11, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., as soon as possible, making this *just as large as you can.*

Make checks or money orders payable to the *Young People's Religious Union.*

Boston Federation Hospitality

The Young People's Religious Union will hold its annual meeting on the afternoon and evening of Thursday May 28, 1914, at the South Congregational Church, corner of Exeter and Newbury streets, Boston, Mass.

The young people of the Boston Federation extend a cordial invitation to delegates from out of town, who come to Boston for this meeting, to the hospitality of their homes on Thursday night.

We ask that all delegates who wish entertainment send their names and addresses to the chairman. The services of several of the Boston young people will be at the command of the delegates who register at Room 3, 25 Beacon Street, on Thursday morning.

A luncheon will be served at the Bulfinch Place Church; and directions as to reaching this church and the South Congregational Church will be given at headquarters.

A reception to the officers of the Young People's Religious Union will follow the afternoon meeting, and supper *for the delegates* will be served at six o'clock.

Cordially yours,

FREDERICK G. MAY, JR.,

Chairman of the Hospitality Committee of the Boston Federation.

Other Boston Federation Notes

The three-act comedy, "The Colonel's Maid," was presented in the Parish House of the Meeting House Hill Church, Dorchester, Mass., on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, March 11 and 12, before good-sized and appreciative audiences. The cast was a picked one from among the members of the federation who have won distinction in local amateur work. Home-made candy was for sale between the acts and dancing following the presentations.

The performances were repeated in the Quincy Parish House, on Friday evening, March 20, and at the Church of the Disciples, Boston, on Friday evening, March 27, this last occasion being known as "Federation Night," when there was a large audience.

The annual Indoor Pinic, that has become one of the social events of the winter season among the federation members, took place this year at Brighton, on Saturday afternoon, March 28.

The annual meeting of the Boston Federation of Young People's Religious Unions will be held in the First Parish Church, Eliot Square, Roxbury, on Sunday, April 26. The business meeting is at 4 o'clock. The 7 o'clock meeting is open to the public, and all are most cordially invited to attend. Dr. Charles W. Eliot, President Emeritus of Harvard College, will speak on "Universal Religion." This subject should be of vital interest to all liberal Christians. Rev. James De Normandie, D. D., has been invited to conduct the devotional service. The presence of both these Unitarian leaders is indicative of a large gathering and it is hoped that the numbers may go well beyond the record. It may be recalled that two hundred and eleven delegates were presnt at the last meeting of the federation in the Richmond Street Church, Dorchester, on January 25th last, within one of the largest attendance ever on record. Remember to save the date and encourage others to do the same.

Pilgrim Federation

The last meeting of the Pilgrim Federation was held in Rockland on Thursday evening, March 26, when an interesting programme was presented.

The Nominating Committee

The Constitution of the Young People's Religious Union provides that each local society may suggest names for the nominations to be made at the annual meeting, for the general officers for the ensuing year, by sending them to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee on or before April 1.

This is a privilege and duty that every branch of the Union should be glad to accept and undertake. Please talk this matter over at your next meeting and let us know of your recommendations. By such means only can the Nominating Committee present a thoroughly representative and democratic list of candidates.

The positions to be filled are those of:

President.

Vice-presidents (six or more representing different sections of the country).

Secretary.

Treasurer.

Fifteen directors as follows:

One from California.

One from Canada.

One from Maine.

One from New Hampshire.

One from New York.

One from Pennsylvania.

One from Vermont.

Eight from Massachusetts.

Every state having 100 or more members in local unions is entitled to a Director.

We wish to emphasize the importance of this matter and urge each delegate to consider it seriously and reply by April first.

All communications should be addressed to

FREDERICK G. MAY, JR., *Chairman.*
68 East Street, Dorchester, Mass.

Notes from the Field

Los Angeles, California—"You will perhaps be interested in knowing what our society has been doing this winter. It was reorganized in the fall and new officers elected. We have had socials at the church and at several homes of

our members about once a month. Two Sundays ago about twenty-five of us took our luncheon with us to church; and after the sermon took a car to one of the canyons, where we spread out our luncheon, later enjoying a tramp through the mountains. On the first Sunday in January, we had a similar affair at one of the beaches, where one of our church members tendered us the use of her cottage. Before Christmas we filled twenty-six baskets with clothing and provisions and took them to needy families at Maternity Cottage, where a party was given to about two hundred of the Russian neighbors; sandwiches and coffee were served and candies and fruit distributed. Religious discussions are held Sunday mornings at ten o'clock, with attendance and interest steadily increasing."

East Lexington, Massachusetts—"The Young People of the Guild of Follen Church, East Lexington, while not many in numbers, have been extraordinarily strong in resourcefulness and active in supporting the work of the church in the past year. They have made proportionately large gifts of money, and besides have devoted much time and personal interest to the carrying on of the church life. Evening services are held every Sunday from October to June under the direction of the Guild. One meeting in each month is in charge of the minister; the other meetings are conducted by the members, with a musical service and a paper or address on some topic of religious significance. These Sunday evening services have been well attended and successful in every way. The future of the church seems secure and safe in view of the strong loyalty of its young people."

Nashua, New Hampshire—The Nashua Union reports two meetings a month; one, consisting of a devotional service in the church with some special topic that is generally discussed later, and a second meeting of a business and social nature at the home of one of the members. This society recently made contributions to the Bulgarian fund.

Germantown, Pennsylvania—"We have been holding our regular monthly meetings with more or less success. Our table at the fair was quite successful. Then we had a very enjoyable literary evening in December; and in January a card party, the proceeds of which our treasurer is sending to Boston. On a recent Friday evening, we entertained the members of the other two societies in Philadelphia and the congregation of our own church. It was a large meeting and a very enjoyable one. A member of our church gave us a delightful talk on the 'Newer Messages of the Modern Dramatists,' with readings from some of the dramas. Afterwards we had a social hour with a few games and refreshments. There were many people to greet and to introduce to each other. Next month we are planning a progressive supper from house to house. If we are able to do as we are planning, we shall tramp several miles before the meal is ended. We find that suppers are the most popular and enjoyed by all, so we shall have them before our evening meetings. Since the gas stove has been put in the kitchen at church, it is very easy to cook a very good meal."

Unitarian Temperance Society

Rev. Joseph H. Crooker, D.D., *President*, Roslindale, Mass.
Mrs. Frank L. Young, *Vice President*.
Rev. Chester A. Drummond, *Secretary*, Somerville, Mass.
Charles H. Stearns, *Treasurer*, Brookline, Mass.

The Root Fallacy About Drink

The minister of a large church in New York City recently said: "Total abstinence should be the rule of life for those who cannot touch liquor without endangering their sobriety, but 'temperance' in all things is about the best text we can have for a rule of life."

This statement reveals lamentable ignorance respecting the true character of alcohol and its effect upon mind and body, in all quantities and at all times. In this lamentable ignorance roots the curse of intemperance: the "Drink Superstition" that still dominates many people. The policy of moderation, applicable to many things in life, no more applies to alcohol than to other poisons like opium or arsenic.

This clergyman (and thousands agree with him) thinks that the only evil incident to drinking is drunkenness. No injury unless the user becomes intoxicated. But industry, insurance, athletic contests, hospital records, scientific experiments, prove that the injury lies, not so much in the comparatively few cases of inebriety, as in the common indulgence of those who are never actually drunk.

It is not primarily a question of "endangering one's sobriety," but of injuring one's life. The reasons for abstinence are: Alcohol in all quantities injures the higher faculties and the vital functions, being a cell-poison and a paralyzer of the brain. It lessens a man's physical endurance, mental activity, and industrial capacity. It destroys the white corpuscles which protect the body from disease germs, and it creates special diseases. It inhibits the higher faculties and produces conditions conducive to crime.

A cross-section of the drinker's liver reveals the injury in that organ caused by "moderate drinking," which meant death when accident or disease came. Abstinence was needed, not because the man could not touch liquor without becoming drunk, but because all drinking injures life.

The life insurance agent shows us that we should abstain, not because we are too weak to resist temptation, but because all use of alcohol shortens life.

The conditions in Munich, where beer is so freely used, abundantly prove this assertion: a great multitude there of physical, mental and moral wrecks, though few actual "drunks."

The railroad manager does not prohibit drinking because some may become drunk, but because all drinking tends to poorer service and more accidents. Laboratory experiments prove that a few glasses of beer, which would not "endanger one's sobriety," do endanger the lives of the traveling public.

This fallacy must be destroyed: That liquor does no harm until it makes us drunk; that only those in danger of getting drunk need to abstain. The teaching of science is that all use is abuse, because alcohol is a life-destroyer.

Joseph H. Crooker.

CLEAR GRIT

A COLLECTION OF

LECTURES, ADDRESSES AND POEMS

By ROBERT COLLYER

What would have been Mr. Collyer's ninetieth anniversary was commemorated by the appearance of this volume, containing lectures and addresses by him, none of which have ever before appeared in print. To these are appended a small number of poems and hymns by the same author, which should be familiar to many. Several of the lectures have proved their worth by frequent usage on the lecture platform, where Mr. Collyer was for many years a most popular figure. Another group consists of "talks on travel, both at home and abroad, biographical studies of great leaders of thought and action, current happenings in the world of affairs and personal reminiscenses of men and events." Among the more significant of the subjects treated will be found "Cathedrals," "The Pilgrims," "The Human George Washington," and discourses on Martineau, Channing, Burns, Charles and Mary Lamb, Hawthorne, Whittier and Thoreau.

To anyone acquainted with Mr. Collyer this book will come as a fresh inspiration, while to those unfamiliar with his writings it will be found surprisingly enjoyable and stimulating. The material has been carefully selected by the Collyer family and edited by the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, for years associated with Mr. Collyer at the Church of the Messiah in New York.

328 pages; $1.50 net; by mail, $1.63

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AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

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By SOPHIA LOVEJOY

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